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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/501,218	07/12/2004	Kazunobu Sakai	2004_0916A	3777

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EXAMINER

ARBES, CARL J

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3729

DATE MAILED: 03/24/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/501,218

Applicant(s)

SAKAI ET AL.

Examiner

C. J. Arbes

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 March 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 21-36 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 21-36 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 12 July 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>herein</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

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The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 21-36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

The Patent Office opines that the language ... determining a force (Fm) caused by the component by the conveyance of the component by the component conveying device at a setting velocity ... and tending to cause the component to deviate from a suction position of the component on the suction nozzle... is so vague, indefinite and unclear that neither the Patent Office nor any reasonable person in this art would be able to define what is included (or excluded) therein. For example what does ... determining a force which is caused in the component... mean? What does ...at the setting velocity mean? What does... and tending to cause the component... mean? What does... on the basis of the deviation...? These examples are non-limiting as to the indefiniteness and lack of clarity with respect to Applicants' claimed invention.

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 21-36, as understood, are further rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Okamura et al (Pat No 4,914,808) hereinafter Okamura et al.

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Okamura et al teach an apparatus for repeatedly mounting electronic parts onto a board. The apparatus includes a pattern storage section (18,19) for storing data representing positions on the board, a sequence designating means for designating a mounting sequence, a components' conveying device having a suction nozzles for lifting and transporting a various electronic components, a positioning and adjusting device for adjusting the position of the chip relative to a X-Y table, and control device (7) for determining the deviation of the component. Okamura et al also teach in Column 7 that the CPU (storing means) is sensitive to the speed of the X-Y table when the component is being positioned and being ready to be mounted thereon. This apparatus is useful to mount different electronic components during a given production run. (Cf. Col 7) It would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in this art to provide a control device which controls the velocity or speed of the conveying device for a period of time following a recognition of the component and preceding the placement of the component on the basis of the magnitude of the deviation inasmuch as the apparatus taught by Okumara et al is the equivalent of Applicants'. That is whereas Okamura et al have a controller which controls the velocity (or speed) of the mounting substrate, Applicants have a controller which controls the velocity (or speed) of the conveying component conveying device. As applied to claim 3, it is held that one of ordinary skill in this art would provide a control device which would control the speed of the conveying device and satisfy the criteria which Applicants deem as their invention. That is, if there is a force on the component which is within the normal range of forces then and in that case the velocity of the component would be greater in its journey to the

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mounting board than if there would be a lesser force i.e. a deviation of the component conveying means.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to C. J. Arbes whose telephone number is 571-272-4563. The examiner can normally be reached on M, T, R and F from 8 to 6.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, P. Vo, can be reached on 571-272-4563. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



C. J. Arbes
Primary Examiner
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